IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 16, lines 3-20, please substitute the following passage:

In a simple aspect of the invention, the overhead generator 106 selects frame synchronization bytes having a first value, in response to commands on line ~~136~~ 116, and the overhead receiver 124 selects frame synchronization bytes having the first value. However, the overhead receiver 124 need not select all the FSB values supplied by the overhead generator. For example, the overhead generator 106 selects a first number of frame synchronization bytes having a first value in a first number of locations and a second number of frame synchronization bytes in a second number of locations having a second value. The overhead receiver 124 selects a third number of frame synchronization bytes in a third number of locations, less than the first number, having the first value, and a fourth number of frame synchronization bytes in a fourth number of locations, less than the second number, having the second value. The overhead receiver 124 synchronizes the received frame in response to recognizing the third number of frame synchronization bytes having the first value in the third number of locations, and the fourth number of frame synchronization bytes having the second value in the fourth number of locations.